

# **Aerothermodynamics Overview and Prediction Assessment**

**Dr. James D. Heidmann  
Aerothermodynamics API  
Subsonic Fixed Wing Project**

**Fundamental Aeronautics Annual Meeting  
New Orleans, LA  
October 31, 2007**

An overview of the Aerothermodynamics Discipline within NASA's Subsonic Fixed Wing Project is given. The primary focus of the presentation is on the research efforts conducted in fiscal year 2007. This year (2007), the work primarily consisted of efforts under level 1 (foundational research) and level 2 (tools and technology development). Examples of work under level 1 are large eddy simulation development, advanced turbine cooling concept development, and turbomachinery flow control development. Examples of level 2 research are the development of highly-loaded compressor and turbine test programs and advanced turbomachinery simulation development, including coupled inlet-fan simulations. An overview of the NRA research activity is also provided. This NRA focused on plasma and aspiration flow control for low pressure turbine application. Finally, a status report on the turbomachinery CFD code assessment activity is provided. This activity focuses on the use of several NASA in-house codes for the NASA rotor 37 and stage 35 test cases.



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## Outline

- **Aerothermodynamics Overview**
- **In-House Research Progress**
- **Turbomachinery Code Assessment**
- **NRA Research Progress**
- **Summary**



## Aerothermodynamics Research Objectives

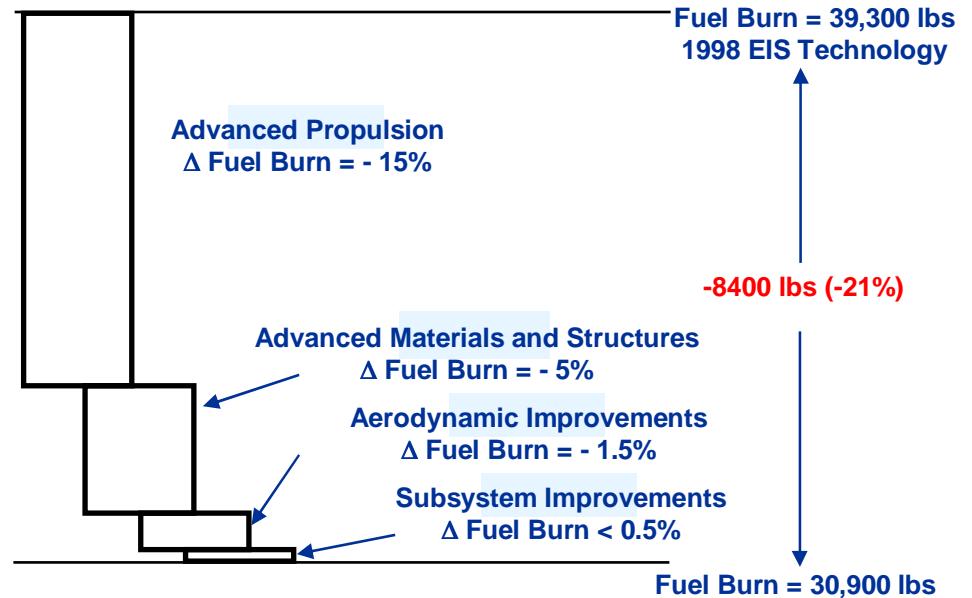
- Develop fundamental understanding and enabling technologies required for concepts such as ultra-high bypass engines, high power density cores, and embedded engines for hybrid wing vehicles.
- Dramatically improve engine thermal efficiency, reduce fuel burn and emissions, and reduce weight and complexity of engine systems.
- Improve understanding through experimental and analytical study of engine inlets, fans, compressors, turbines, and nozzles and their interactions.



# Aerothermodynamics Research Impact on Fuel Burn

- 162 pax, 2940 nm mission baseline
- Ultra high bypass ratio geared engines
- High power density engine cores
- Key Aerothermodynamics technology targets:
  - +1 point increase in turbomachinery efficiencies
  - 25% reduction in turbine cooling
  - +50 deg. F compressor temperatures (T3)
  - +100 deg. F turbine rotor inlet temperatures

## N+1 Conventional Small Twin



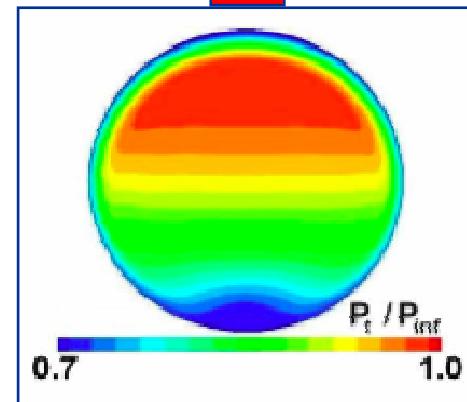
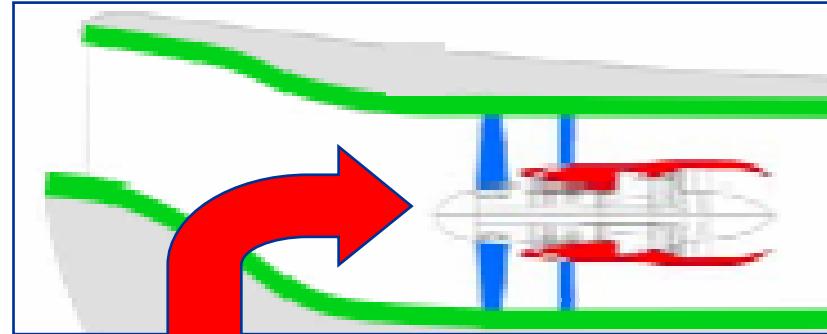


## Integrated Embedded Propulsion Systems



**N+2 Hybrid Wing/Body  
with Embedded Engines**

Noise and fuel burn  
benefits to embedded  
engines



Distorted inlet flow propagated to fan-face for  
hybrid wing vehicle embedded engine, highlighting  
challenges in fan design and operation.

**NRA Round 2 Addresses Embedded Propulsion Issues**



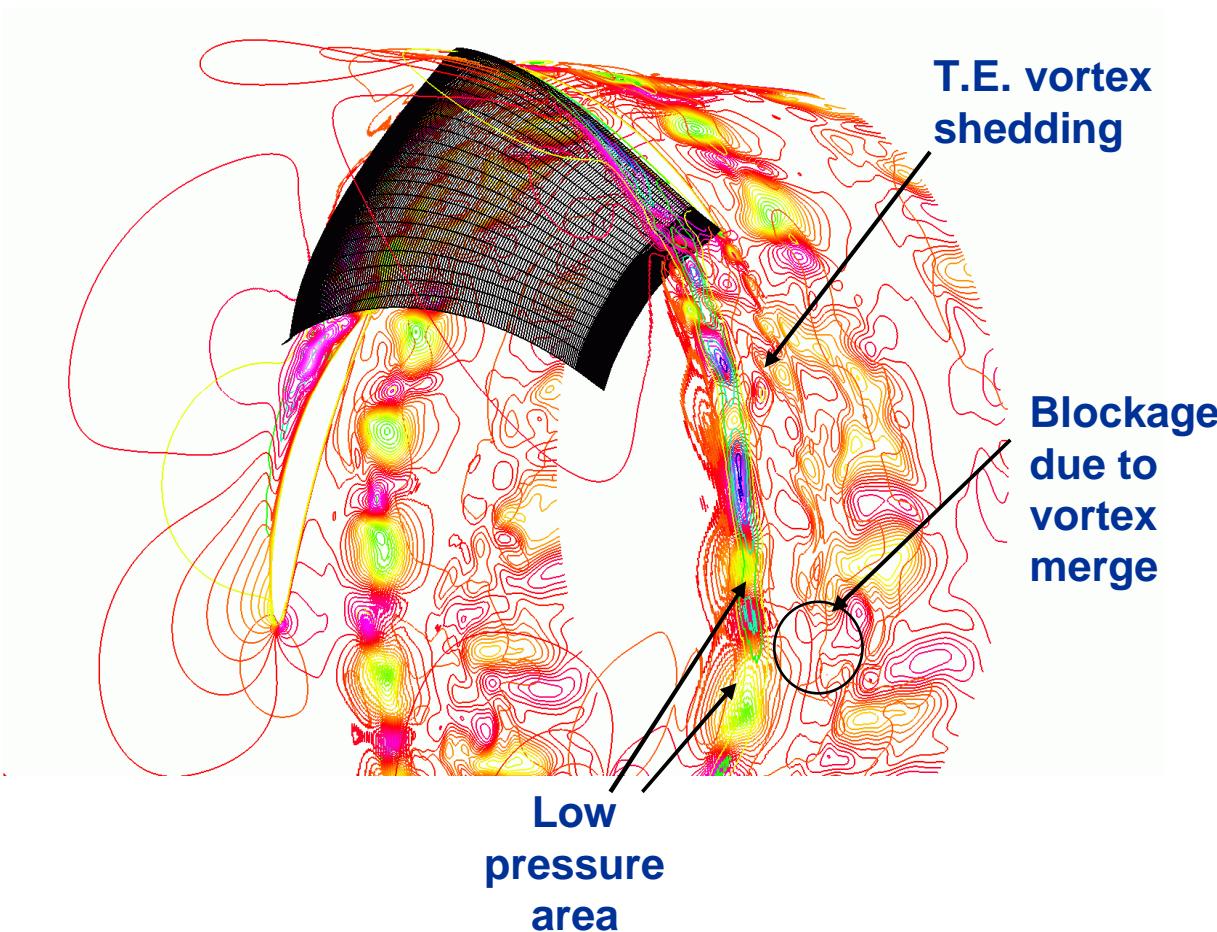
## Aerothermodynamics Research Areas:

- NRA Cooperative Agreements & Contracts
- Foundational Research:
  - Model and Method Development
  - Flow Control Development
  - Cooling Concept Development
- Technologies & Tool Development
  - Turbomachinery Simulation Development
  - Advanced Compression System Development
  - Advanced Cooled Turbine Development
  - Advanced Inlet and Nozzle Development
  - Turbomachinery Code Assessment



## Foundational Research: Model and Method Development

### Large Eddy Simulation of Vortex Interactions at 95 % Span

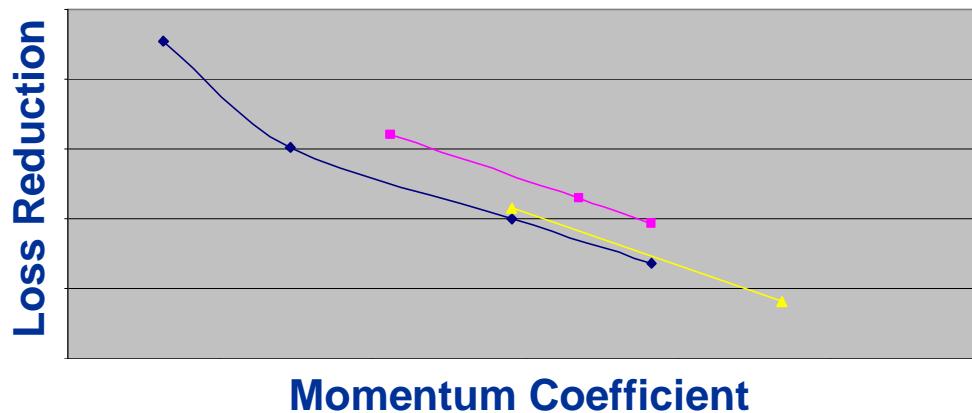


LES simulation of vortex interaction for a ducted propeller. Interactions between tip clearance vortex, shed vortex and tip vortex from the adjacent blade produce low pressure area. Tip gap size affects this phenomena.

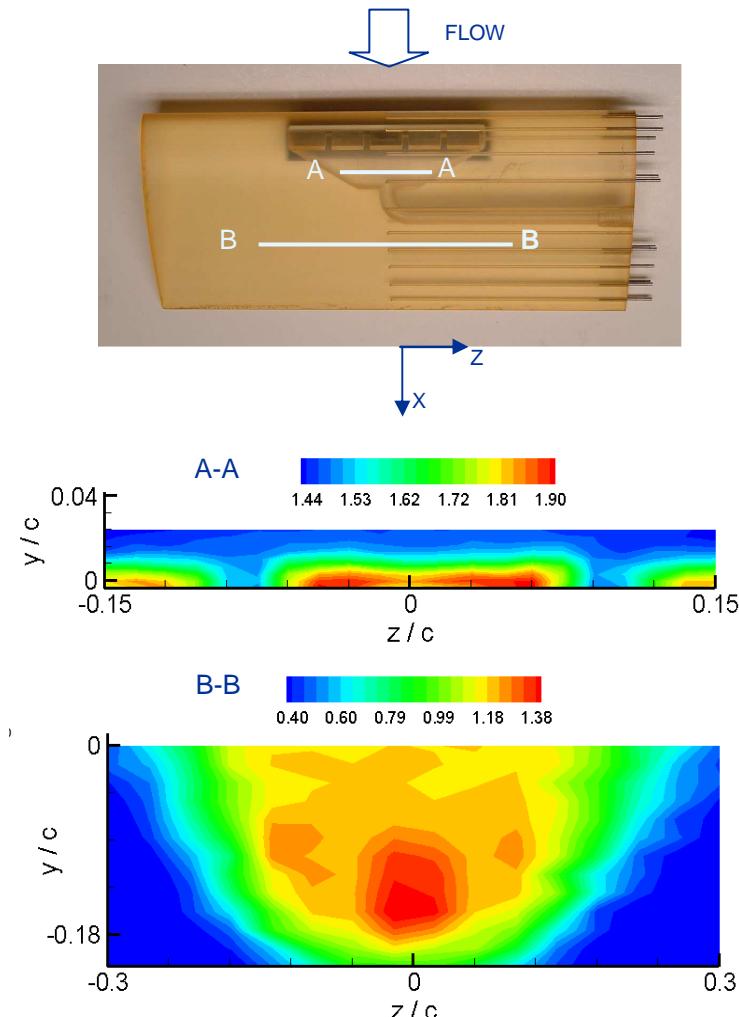


## Foundational Research: Flow Control Development

**Typical Stator Wake Loss Reduction  
As a Function of Increasing Momentum  
Coefficient for a Synthetic Jet in an  
Axial Compressor Stator Blade**



**10% to 20% reduction in  
aerodynamic loss achieved with  
zero net mass flow devices**

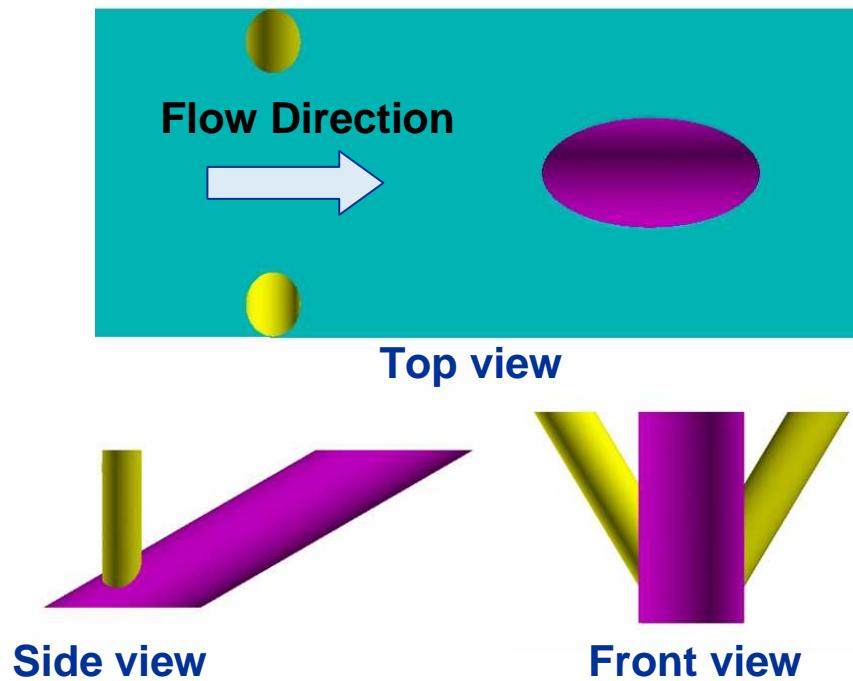


**Experimental Study on Flow Control over a  
Blade by Acoustic Excitation (Synthetic Jets)**

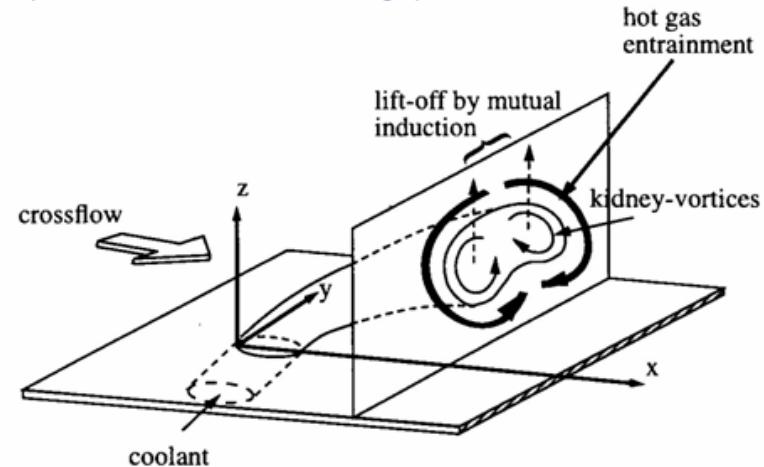


## Foundational Research: Cooling Concept Development

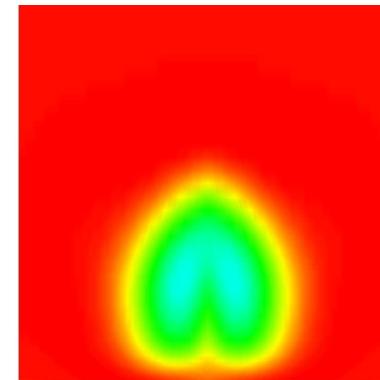
### “Anti-vortex” film cooling concept



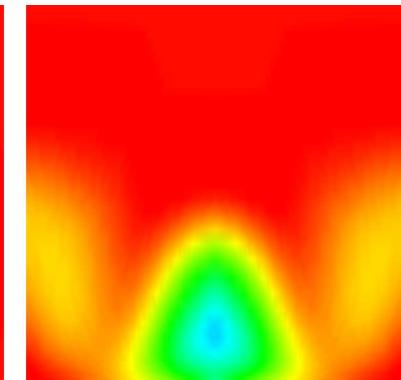
### Typical film cooling jet lift-off behavior



Round hole



Anti-vortex hole

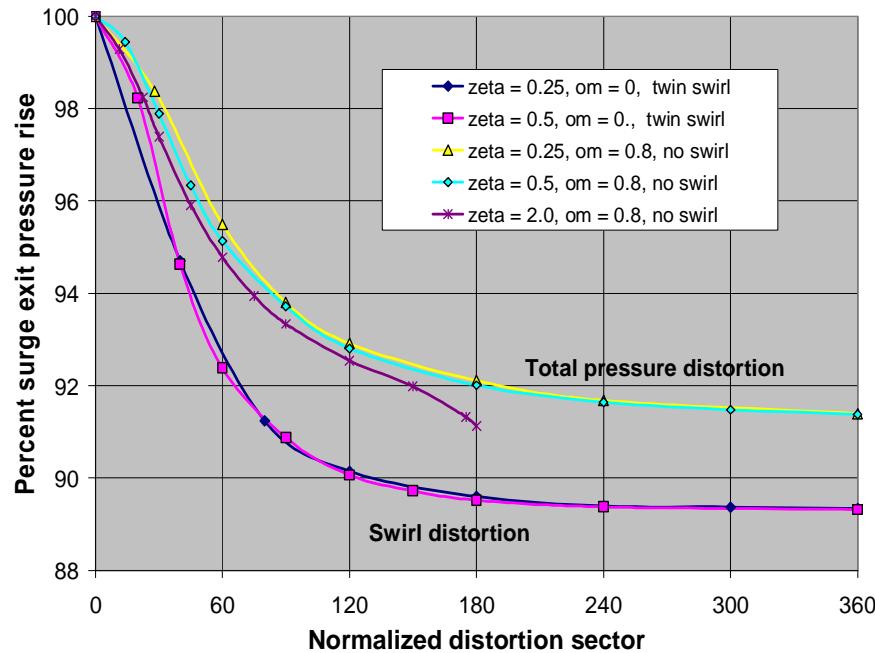


Comparison of round hole and “anti-vortex” turbine film cooling jet attachment



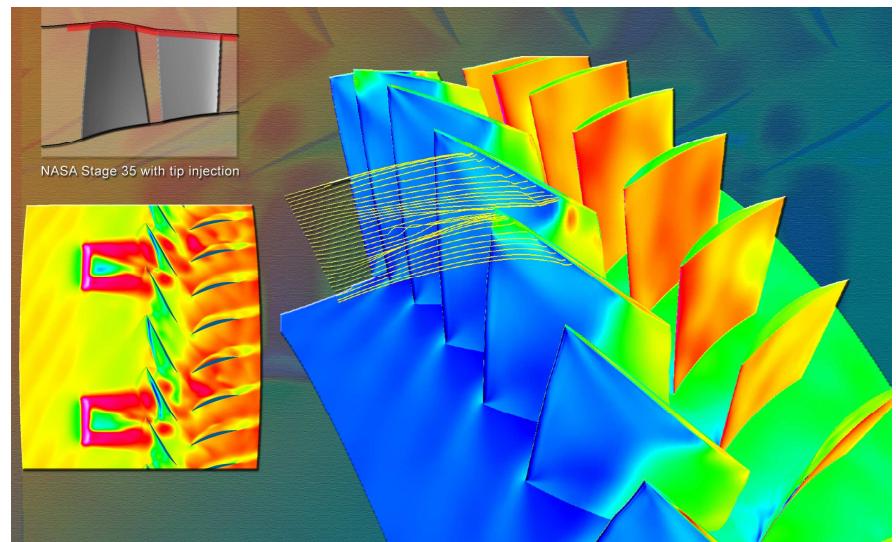
## Technologies & Tool Development: Turbomachinery Simulation Development

**Model for static & dynamic response of fans & compressors to inlet total pressure & swirl distortion developed using harmonic balance technique**



**Impact of twin-swirl and total-pressure circumferential distortions**

**Axial Compressor with discrete flow injection to mitigate rotating stall**



**Integrated inlet/fan simulations with inlet flow distortion and flutter condition complete using TURBO.**

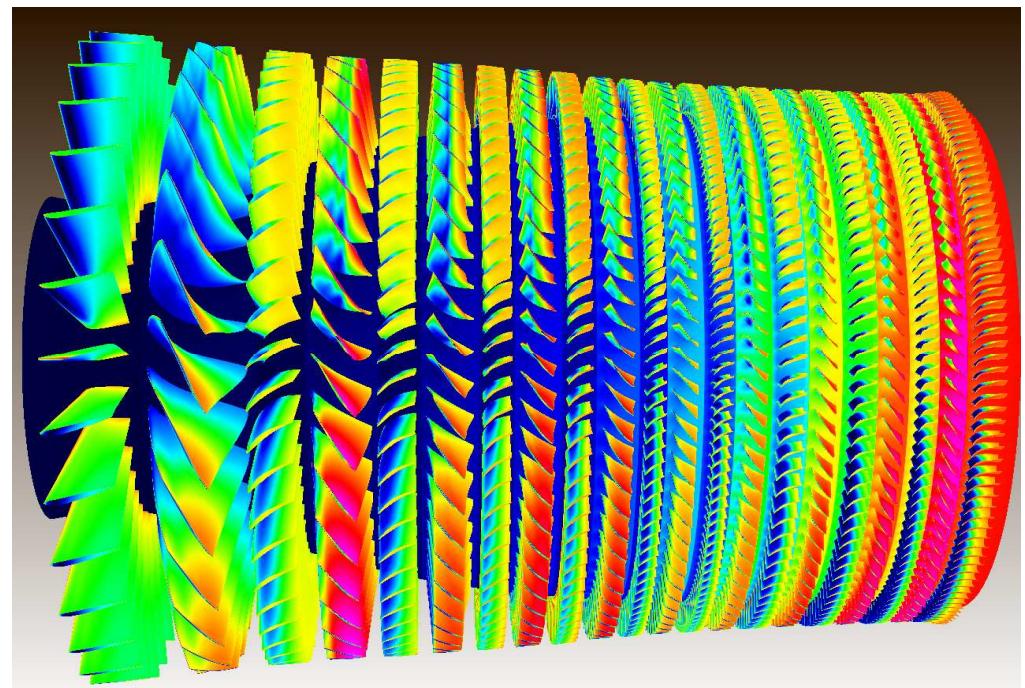


## Technologies & Tool Development: Advanced Compression System Development

**NASA Glenn W7 compressor  
facility currently being  
upgraded to full multistage  
testing capability**

**Initial test article is 76B 3-  
stage compressor**

**Advanced highly-loaded 3-  
stage compressor testing  
proposed**

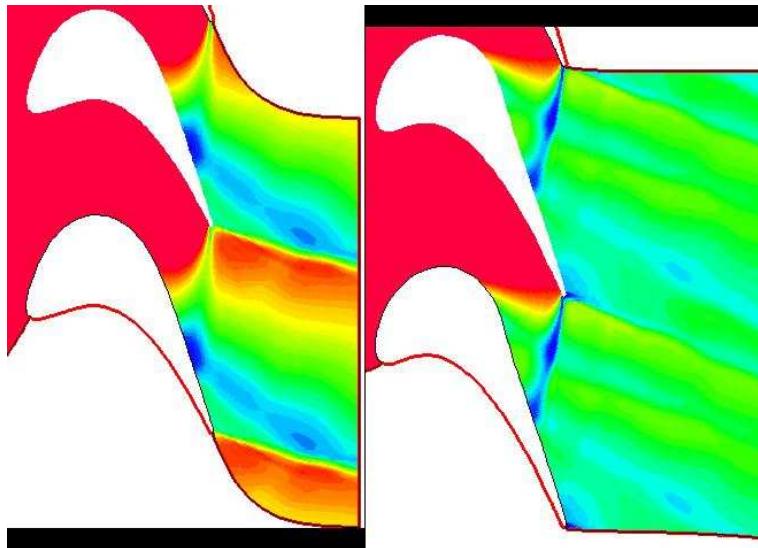


**21 Blade Row High Pressure Compressor  
Analysis with APNASA Code**



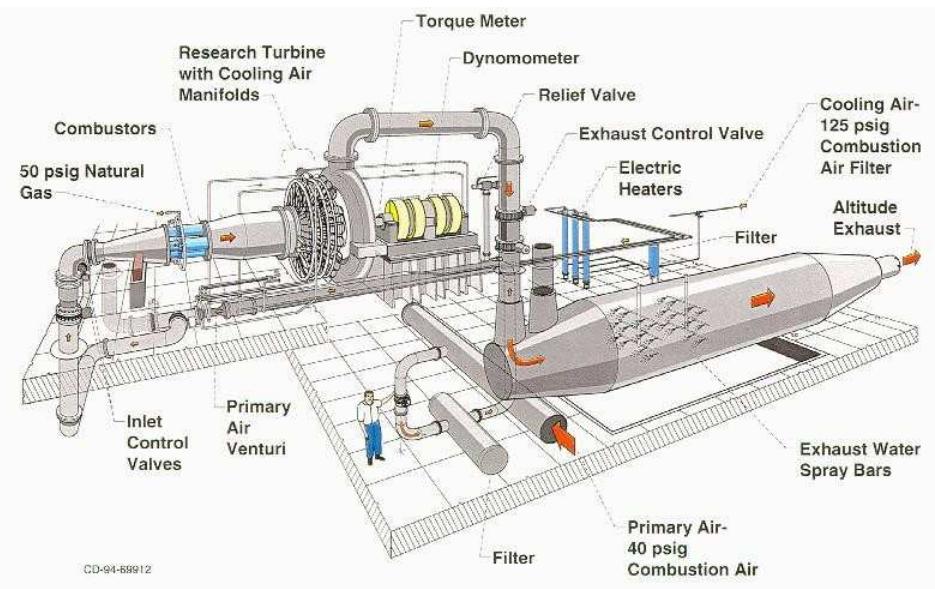
## Technologies & Tool Development: Advanced Cooled Turbine Development

### General Electric Highly-Loaded High Pressure Turbine



Conventional      Reduced Shock Design

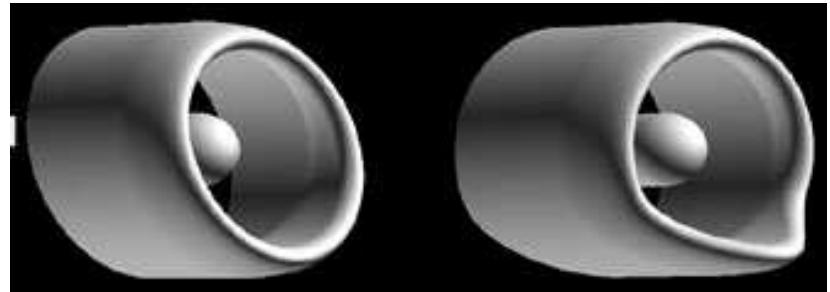
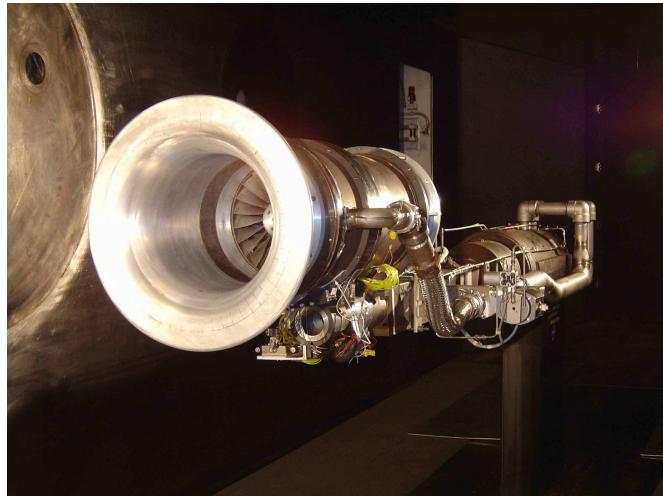
Pressure Ratio = 3.25



Both High and Low Pressure Turbines to be Tested in NASA  
Glenn Single Spool Turbine Facility (W6)



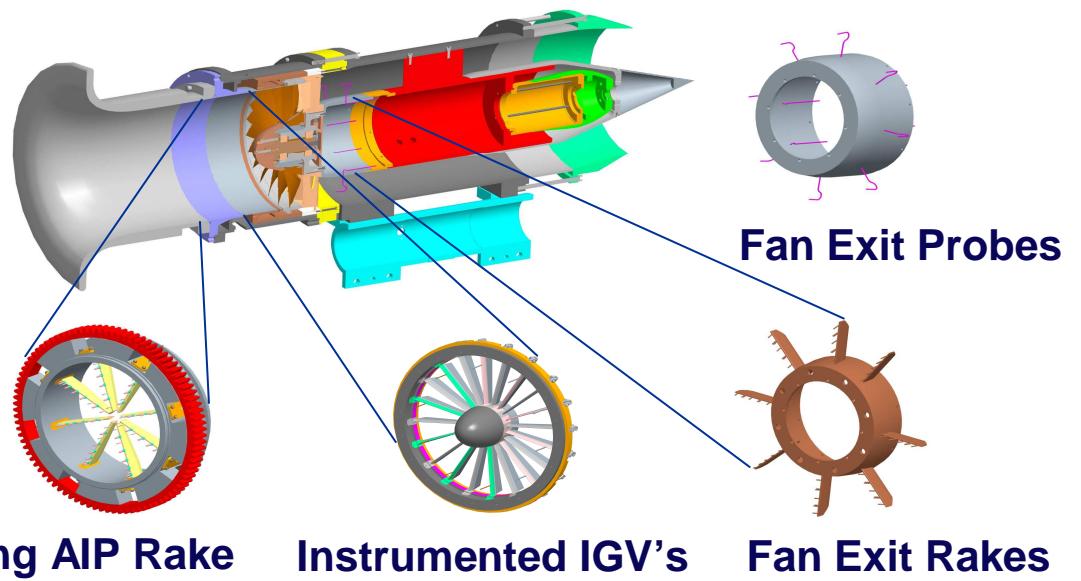
## Technologies & Tool Development: Advanced Inlet and Nozzle Development



Subsonic scarf-inlet designs with inlet length transition angles of  $180^\circ$  and  $67.5^\circ$ .

Versatile Integrated Inlet  
Propulsion Aerodynamics Rig

Research focuses on  
inlet/fan interaction





## Technologies & Tool Development: Turbomachinery Code Assessment

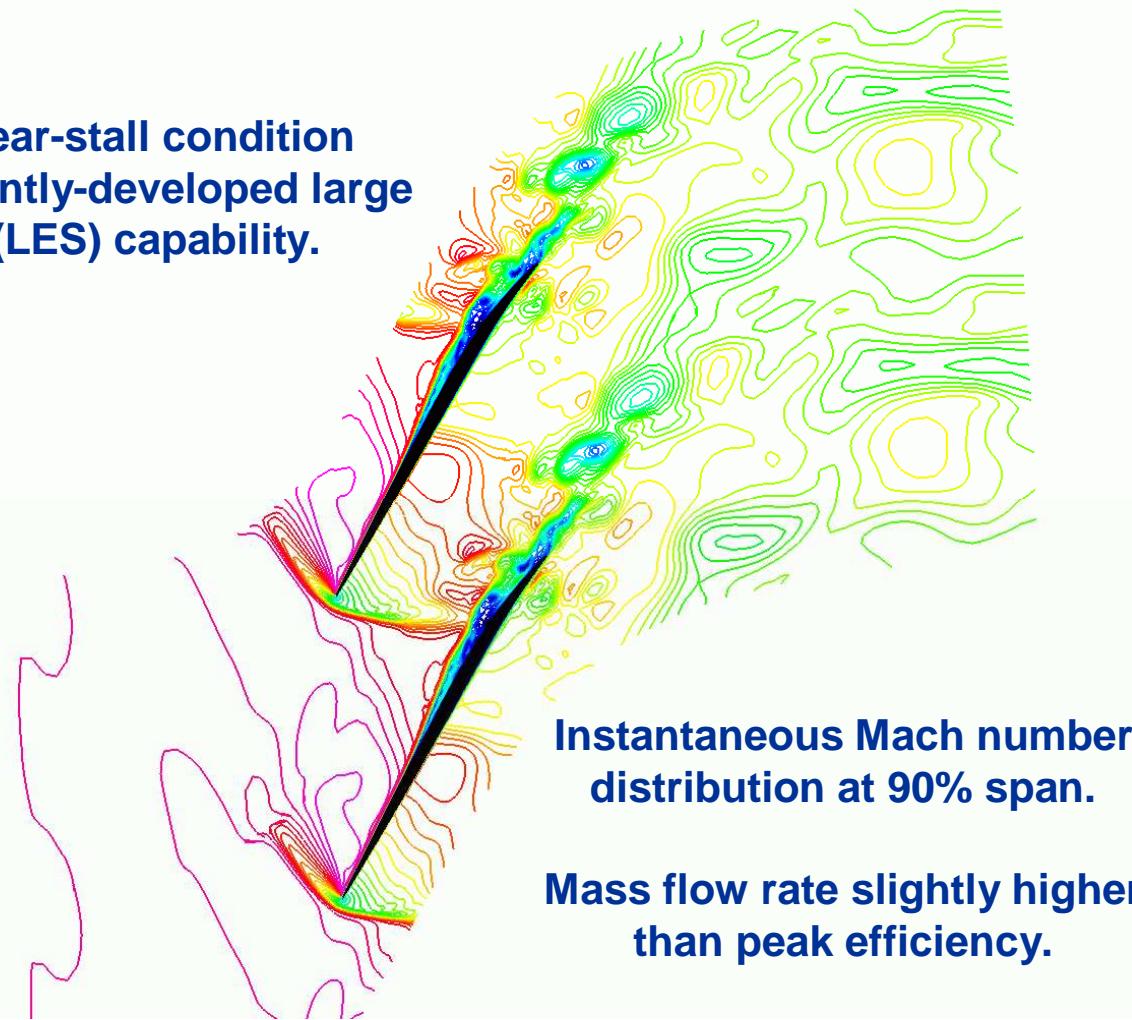
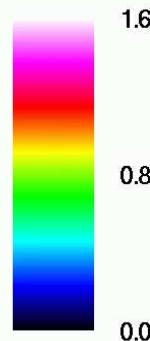
- **Code assessment conducted for 5 NASA turbomachinery Navier-Stokes CFD codes**
  - Glenn-HT – Convective Heat Transfer Focus
  - H3D – Large Eddy Simulation Capability
  - Swift – Mixing Plane
  - APNASA – Average Passage Modeling
  - TURBO – Full Unsteady Simulation
- **Test cases chosen based on previous benchmark activity, availability of high quality validation data, and relevance of case**
  - NASA Rotor 37 – transonic compressor with very high quality data
  - NASA Stage 35 – transonic compressor stage for interaction effects



# H3D Analysis for NASA Rotor 37

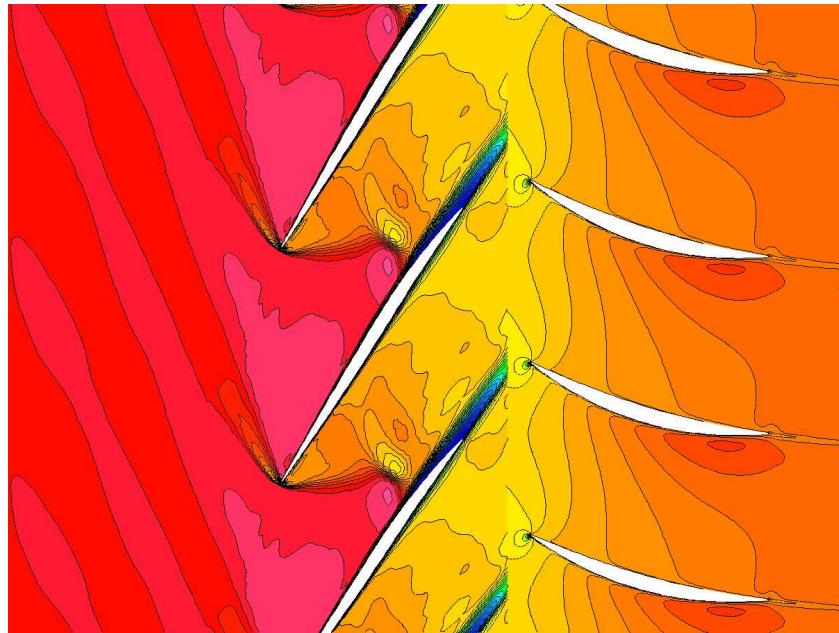
New analyses at near-stall condition performed using recently-developed large eddy simulation (LES) capability.

Relative Mach Number

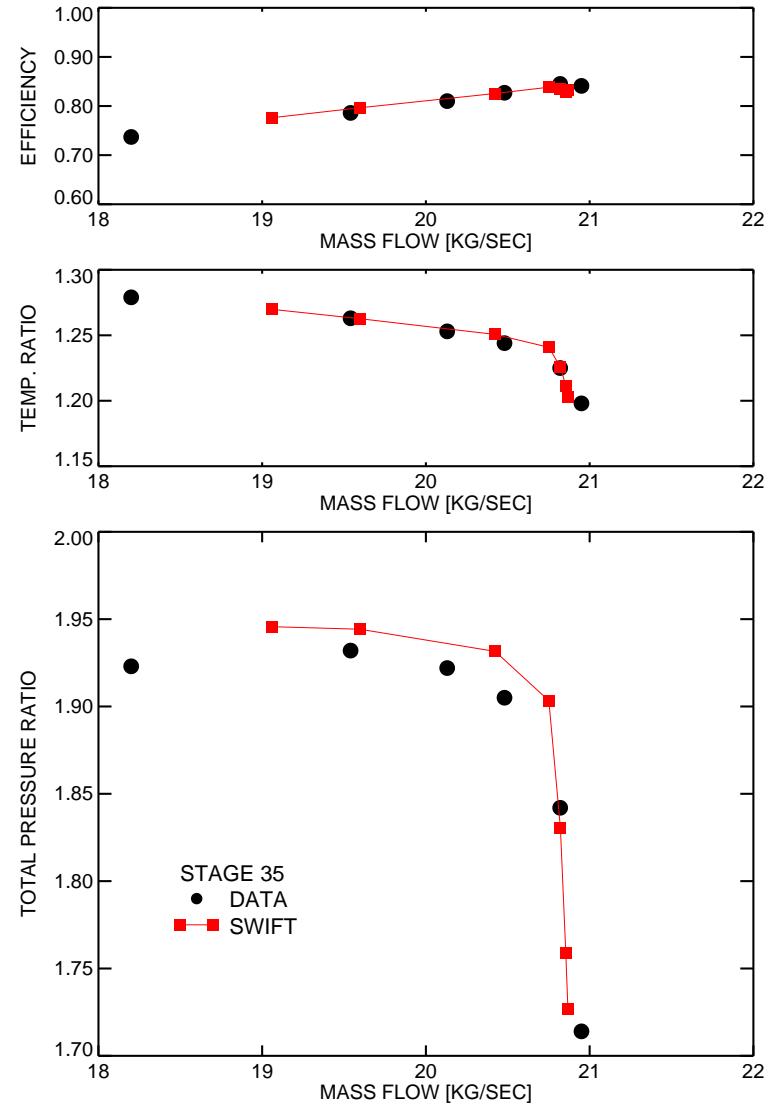




# SWIFT Analysis for NASA Stage 35

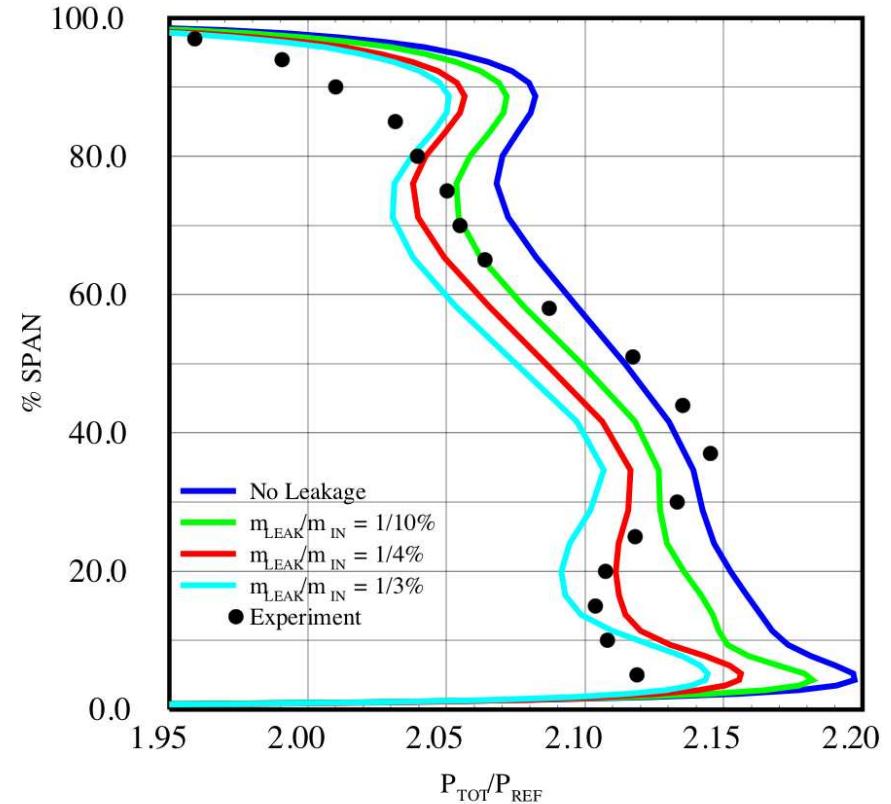
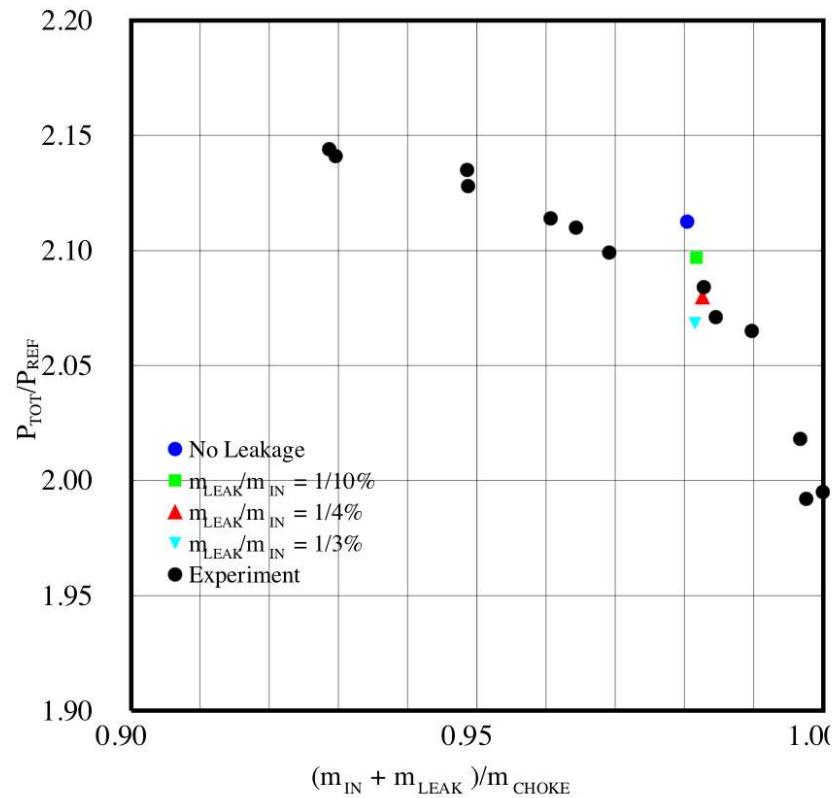


Relative Mach Number



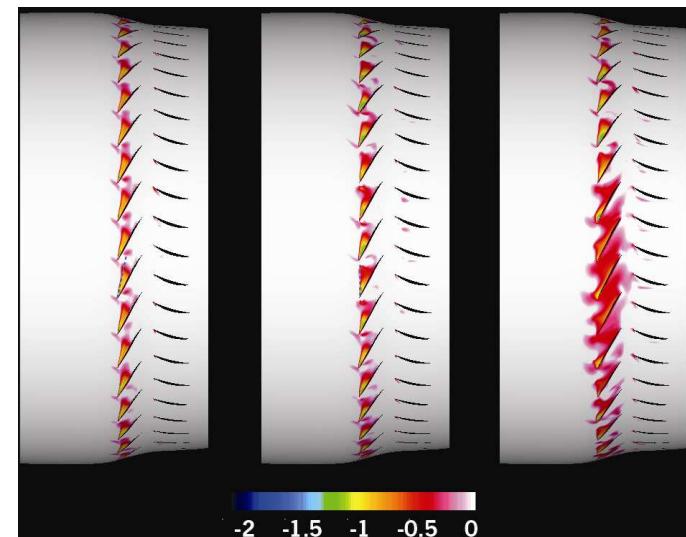
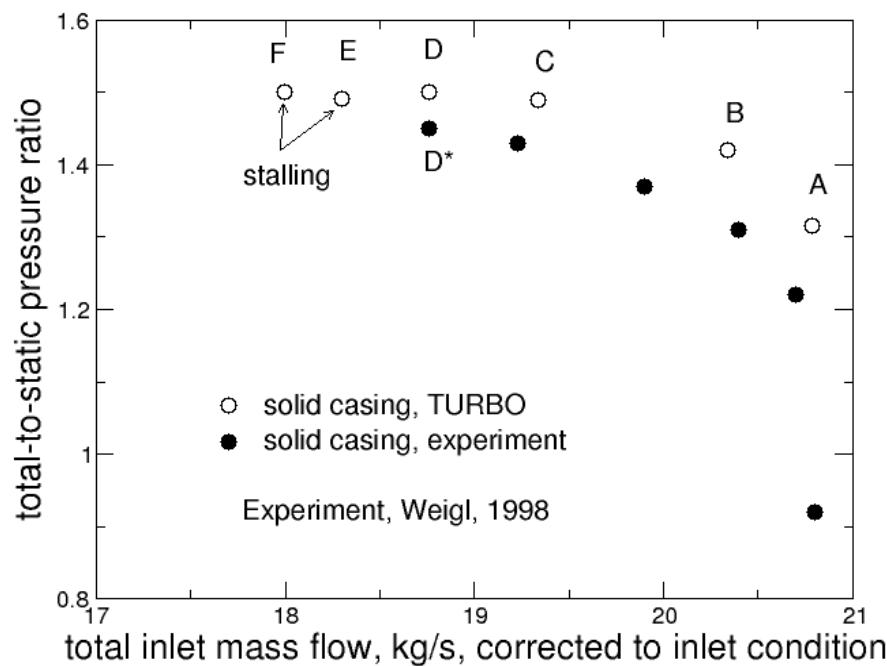
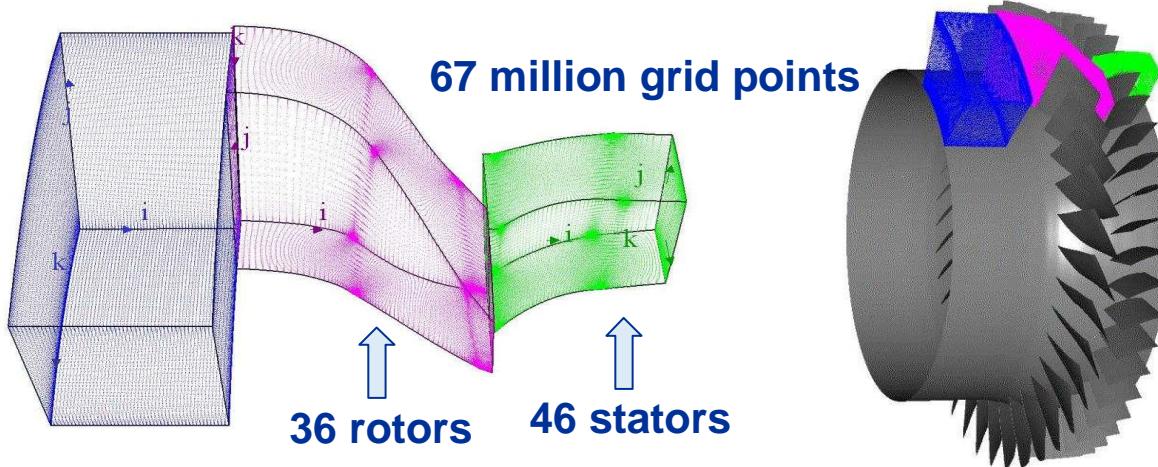


# APNASA Analysis for Rotor 37



Effect of Hub Leakage on Total Pressure Profiles

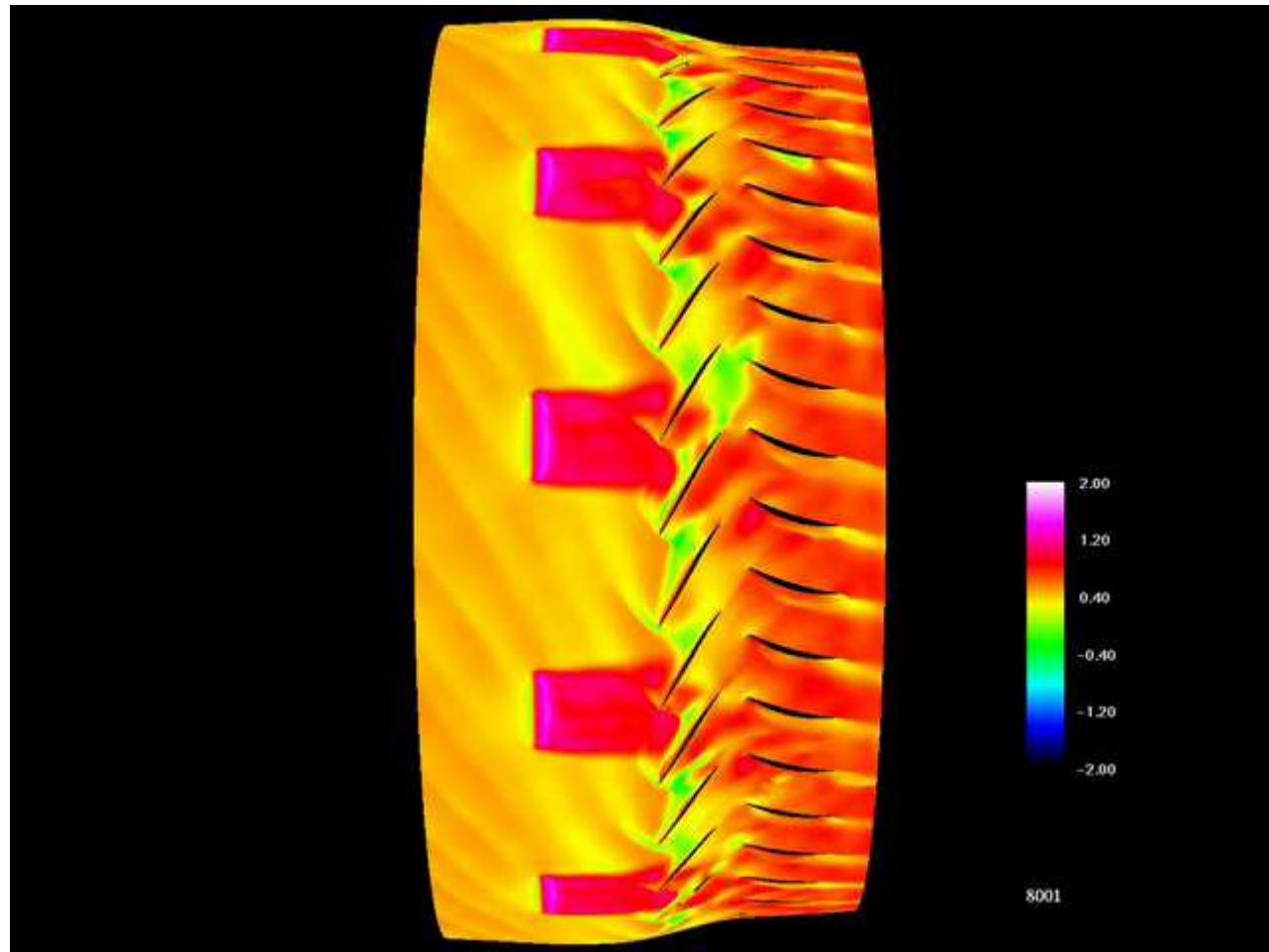
# TURBO Analysis for Stage 35



**TURBO prediction of stall inception**



# TURBO Analysis for NASA Stage 35



**Stage 35 with Tip Injection**



# Aerothermodynamics NRA Investment

6 Round 1 NRAs awarded – starting Jan 2007

University	PI	Topic Area	Tech. Monitor
Iowa State Univ.	Durbin	Turbulence Modeling	Hah
Naval Academy	Volino	LPT flow Control	Strasizar
Ohio State Univ.	Bons	LPT Flow Control	Strasizar
Princeton Univ.	Miles	Plasma Actuators	Ashpis
Univ. Minnesota	T. Simon	Plasma Flow Control	Poinsatte
Univ. Wisconsin	Hershkowitz	Plasma Actuators	Ashpis





# Aerothermodynamics NRA Investment

## Integrated Embedded Propulsion Systems (N+2)

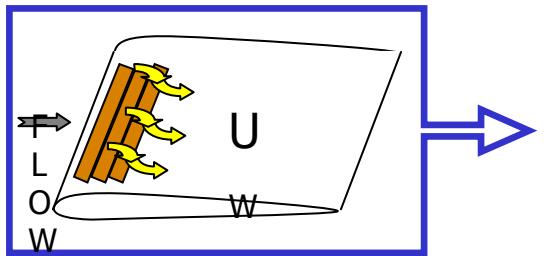
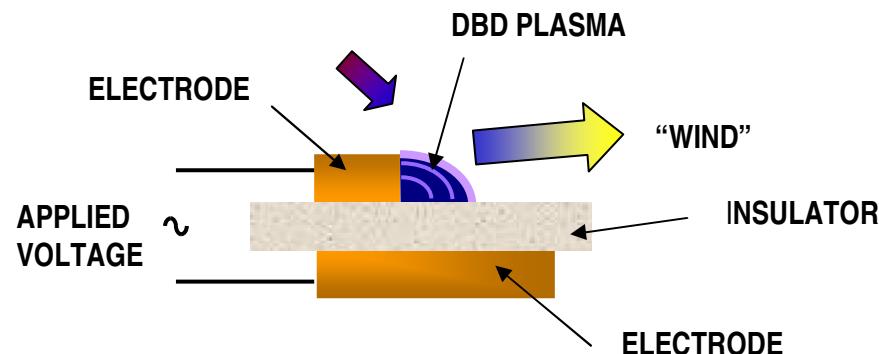
3 Round 2 NRAs awarded – starting October 2007

Performing Organization	PI	Topic Area	Tech. Monitor
U. of Tennessee-Chatt.	Whitfield	High Fidelity Modeling	Hathaway
The Boeing Company	Mace	Inlet Flow Control	Abbott
United Technologies	Florea	Inlet/Fan Interaction	Arend



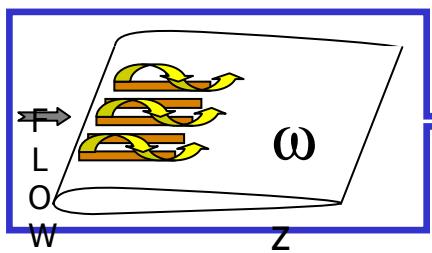
## Background

# Dielectric Barrier Discharge (DBD) Plasma Actuators



Electrode perpendicular to flow

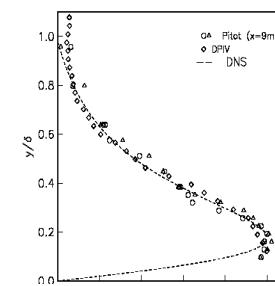
Active Flow Control via  
Oscillating wall jet



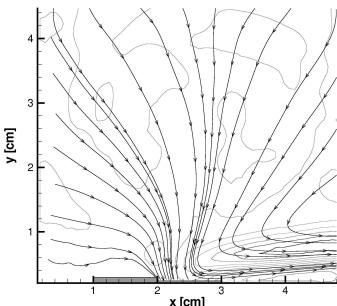
Electrode parallel to flow  
Active Flow Control via  
Streamwise vortices

### Advantages of a GDP actuators

- Pure solid state device
- Simple, no moving parts
- Flexible operation, good for varying operating conditions
- Low power
- Heat resistance – w/ proper materials



Measured  
wall jet  
(Univ. Notre Dame)



Measured  
Streamlines  
(Univ. Kentucky)



## The customary approach to DBD actuators:

- The applied voltage is in AC voltage 5-80 KV
- Signal shape: sine wave , saw-tooth, etc
- Frequency range 2-20 KHz.
- Generated “wind” peak velocities obtained 1-20 m/s

## The Princeton novel approach to DBD actuators:

- Applied voltage: Ultra short pulses – nanoseconds
- Repetition rate > 100 KHz
- Bias Voltage
- Predicted two orders magnitude increase in “wind” peak velocities

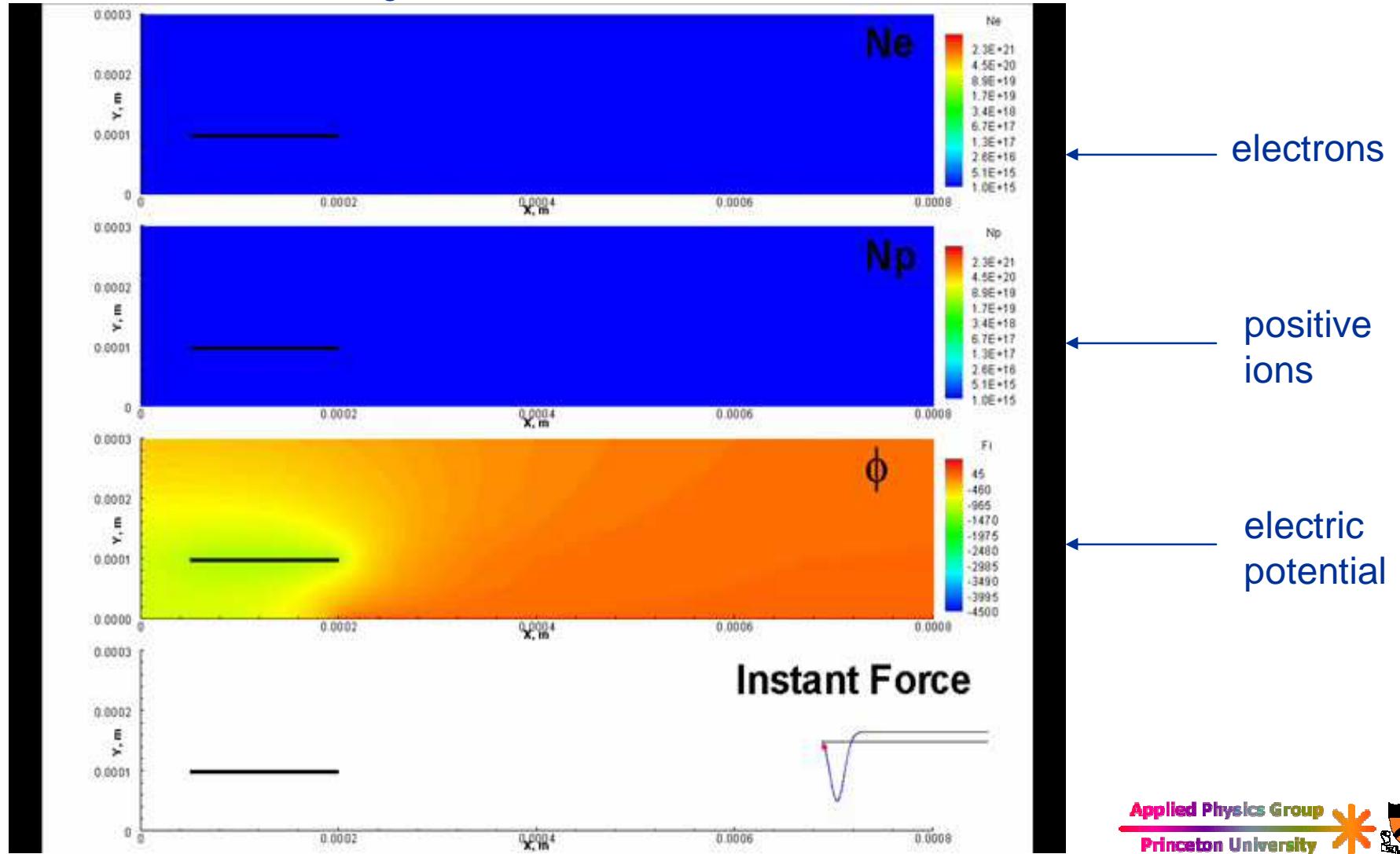
## Approach

- Computational
- Experimental



## Example computational case: high voltage repetitive short negative Gaussian pulses and dc bias

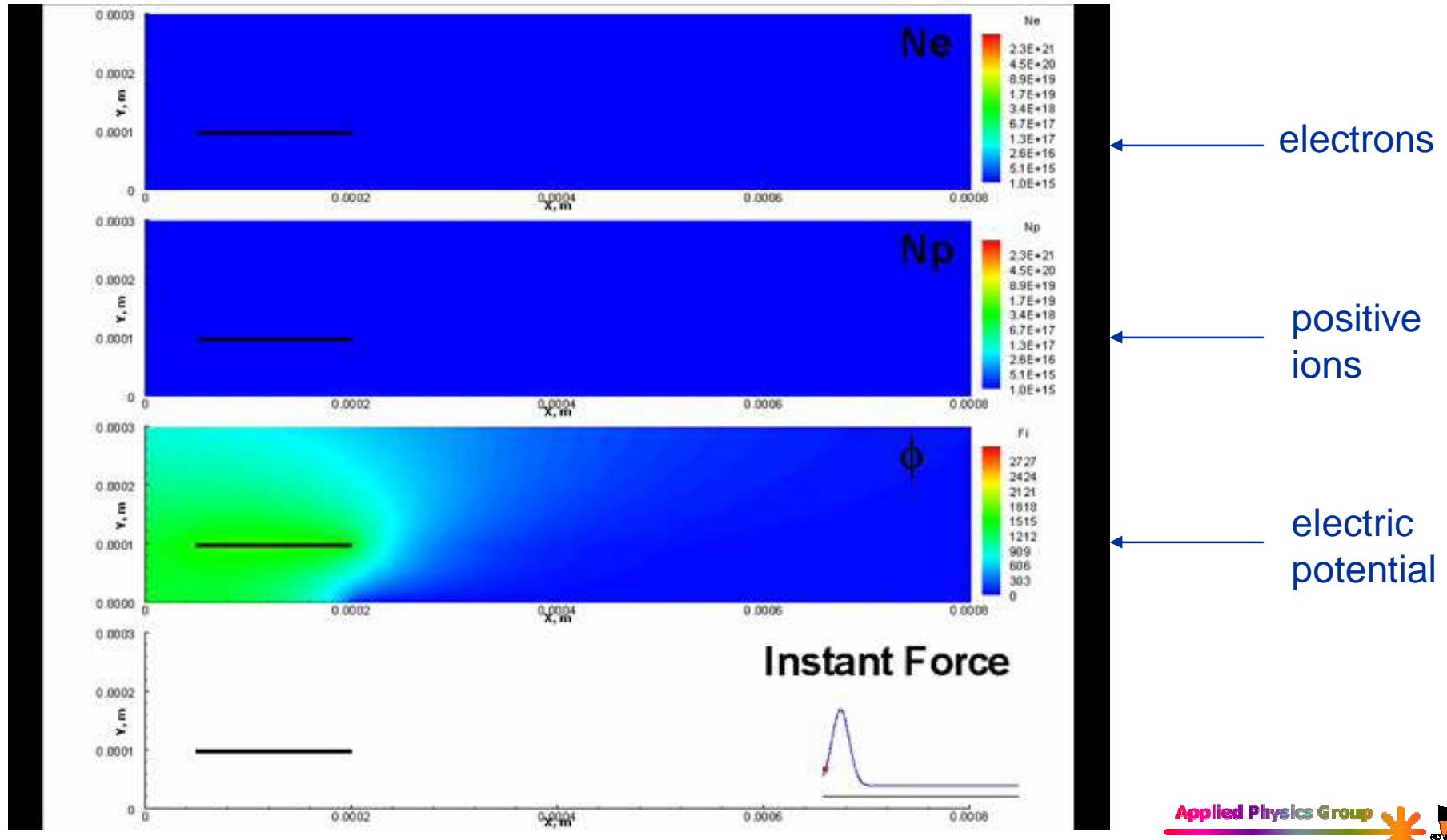
- Peak voltage: -4.5 kV, FWHM: 4 ns, Bias: 0.5 kV, f=500kHz





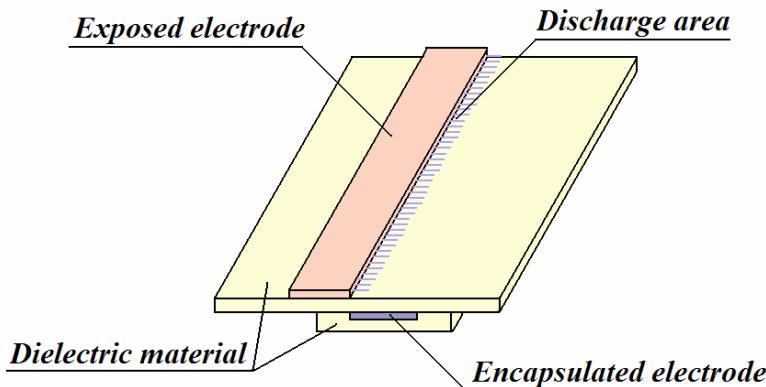
## Example computational case: high voltage repetitive short positive Gaussian pulses and dc bias

- Peak voltage: 3 kV, FWHM: 4 ns, Bias: 1 kV, f=500kHz



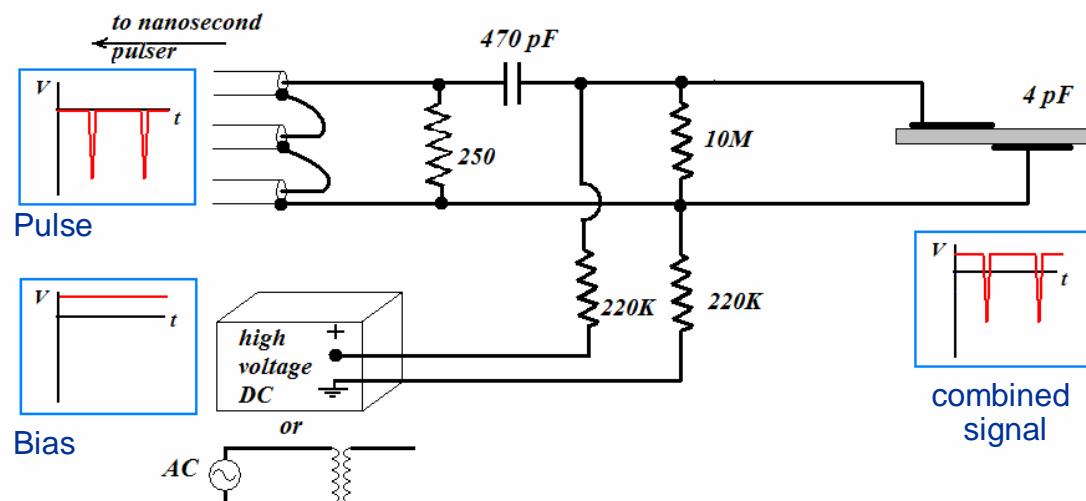


# Experimental setup



Dielectric material:  
kapton tape  
thickness 100  $\mu\text{m}$

Electrodes:  
copper foil  
width 25 mm  
spanwise dim. 50 mm



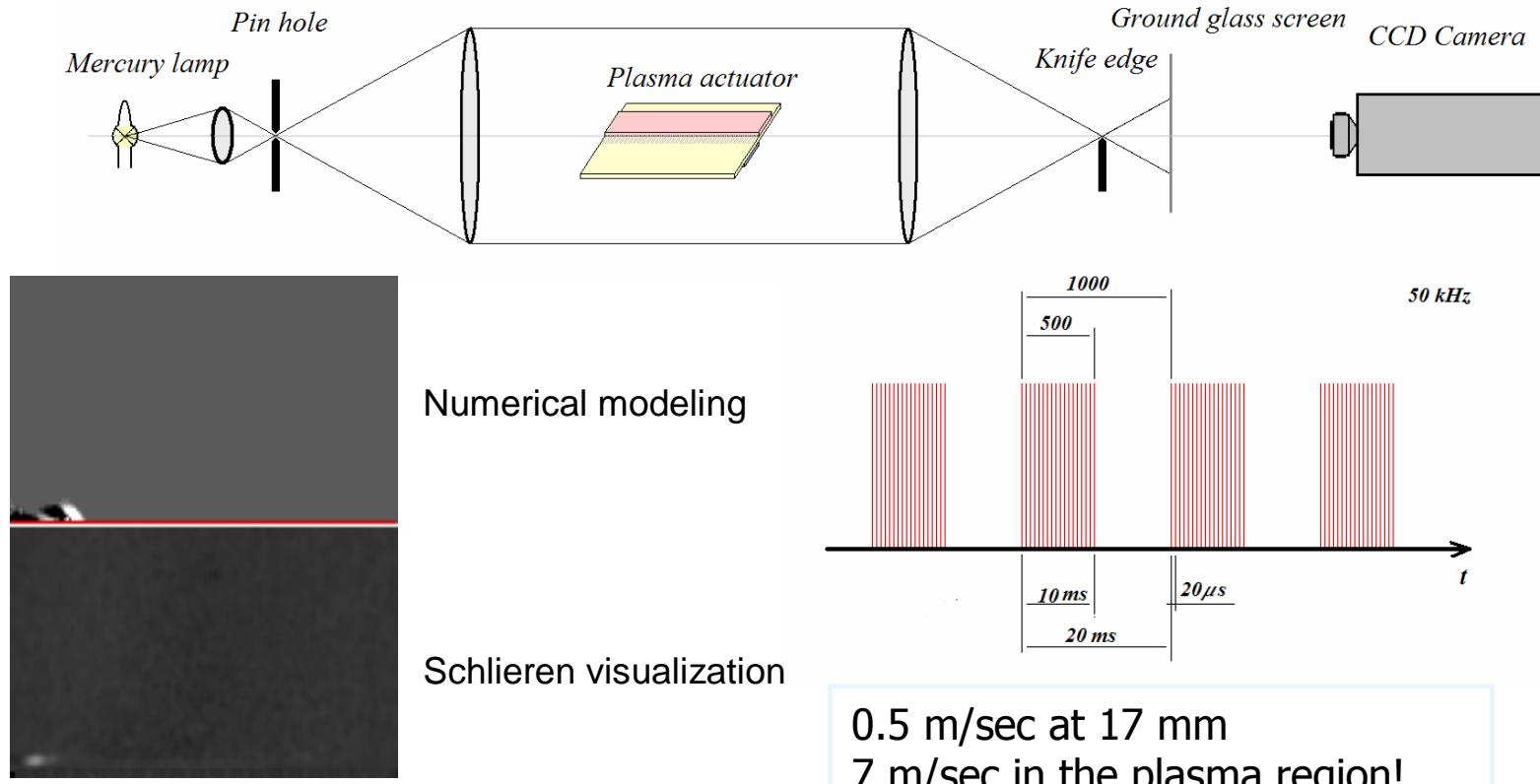
The circuit is designed so as to superimpose short pulses on a low frequency bias voltage without interference between the pulser and the low-frequency power supply.

**The pulses and the bias voltage are controlled independently**



# Schlieren technique

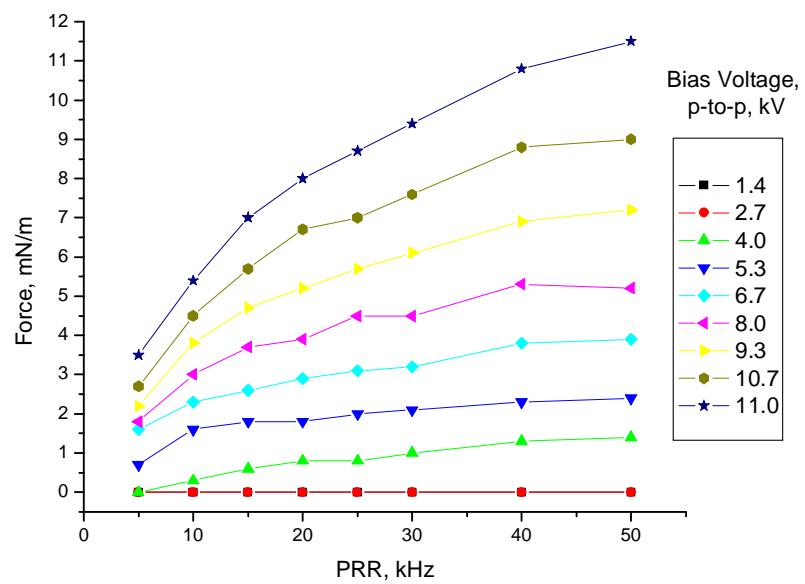
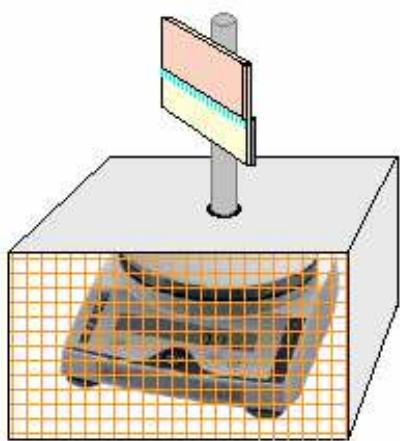
for the DBD plasma actuator induced flow



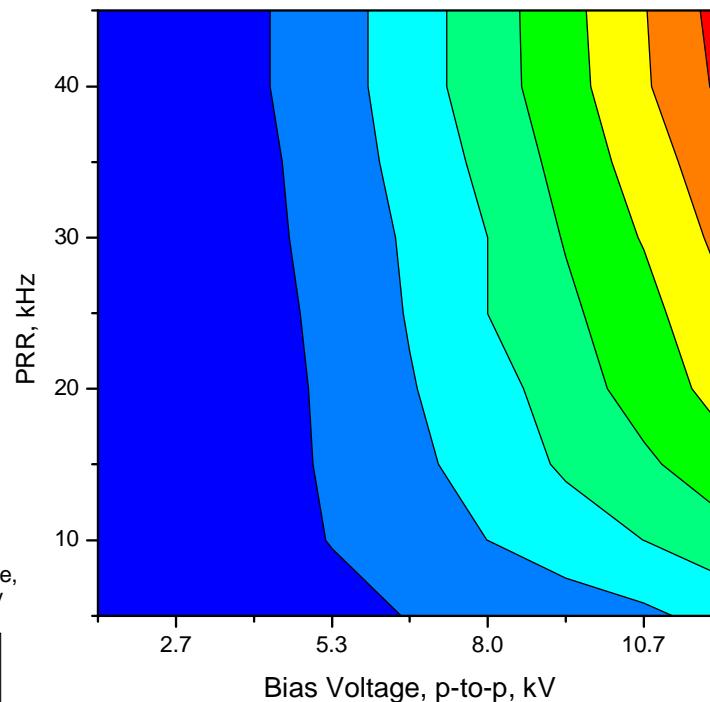
Schlieren technique, burst mode of plasma actuator operation, and 2-D fluid numerical model coupled together allow to restore the entire two-dimensional unsteady plasma induced flow pattern as well as the characteristics of the plasma induced force.



# Induced Momentum – via force measurements



Force, mN/m



MACOR 1/16"  
Negative pulses 5kV



## Princeton NRA Summary

- Progress has been made in deriving significant insights into the effect of the applied voltage and the role of the bias voltage.
  - The discharge is efficiently controlled by ultra-short pulsing,
  - Gas acceleration is controlled by the bias voltage
  - The effects can be controlled independently
- Progress has been made in further development of the numerical code – algorithm and parallelization
  - Numerical simulation already provided clear guidance for experiments.
  - Experiments point to needed code improvements



## Aerothermodynamics Summary

- Aerothermodynamics technologies play a critical role in the Subsonic Fixed Wing Project goals, particularly with respect to performance and fuel burn.
- NASA in-house efforts making progress in both foundational research and technology & tool development.
- Turbomachinery code assessment activity progressing with latest tools for NASA rotor 37 and stage 35.
- Significant investment in external research through NRA rounds 1 & 2
  - Round 1 focus on flow control
  - Round 2 focus on embedded engine issues